

communities, developing skills in everything from sports to science, and encouraging our future leaders.

In celebration of nine decades of excellence and accomplishments, Girl Scouts of the USA will be hosting its 90th Anniversary gala in Washington, D.C. A select group of 10 extraordinary American women will also be honored for serving as role models for today's Girl Scouts. These women exemplify how all girls can achieve greatness. They will be honored with the Girl Scouts' National Women of Distinction Juliette Award. Proceeds from this evening event, their first national awards and fundraising dinner, will benefit the "Girl Scouting: For Every Girl, Everywhere" initiative, helping to expand accessibility and opportunity for all girls.

As our great nation looks to forge ahead into the next century, we, as Americans, can rest assured that new leaders will emerge from organizations like Girl Scouts. Young women of today learn how to accept challenges, be self-confident, internationally conscious, and assertive beginning in the Girl Scouts. These valuable skills are reinforced and cultivated in every girl who participates in Girl Scouts. Our future looks bright with girls all over the country striving to do their best.

I want to congratulate the Girl Scouts of Nassau County and the Girl Scouts of the USA on 90 years of outstanding work and I wish them continued success in the future.

TRIBUTE TO REVEREND JESSIE D. JONES AND NEW ISRAEL BAPTIST CHURCH

**HON. DAVID E. BONIOR**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 13, 2002*

Mr. BONIOR. Mr. Speaker, the New Israel Baptist Church has a noble mission: to preach the Good News, teach divine truth and heal life by the power of God. A lifelong leader and devoted pastor, Reverend Jessie D. Jones has truly demonstrated his commitment to advancing this mission across southeastern Michigan, as pastor of the New Israel Baptist Church. Today, as the members and friends of Rev. Jones gathered to celebrate his birthday, they paid tribute to his outstanding years of activism, leadership, and faith.

Born in the late 1930's in Arkansas, Rev. Jones was the youngest of eight children born to Mr. and Mrs. Lincoln Jones. Confessing Christ at the age of fourteen at the Mount Olive Baptist Church in Dumas, Arkansas, Rev. Jones went on to serve in the United States Army for two years after completing his education. Accepting his calling into the ministry at Burnette Baptist Church, he was licensed and ordained under the guidance of Dr. J. Allen Caldwell. After completing two years of Bible college at Tysdale University, Rev. Jones's drive for faith led him to receive his doctrine degree of Divinity at the Detroit International School of Ministry.

Pastor and founder of the New Israel Baptist Church in Detroit, Rev. Jones has dedicated over 15 years to his vision for New Israel. Beginning in a one room store front on West Eight Mile Road in May of 1984, three years of visualizing, praying, and preaching led Rev. Jones and his congregation to their beautiful

location on Puritan St. in Detroit, where they have flourished in faith and service for the last 15 years. Leading three hundred and twelve souls to Christ, including three preachers, Pastor Jones has shown a special dedication to leading the effort to make a positive difference in the lives of others. Demonstrating unwavering support and commitment to his belief in community as well, Rev. Jones has been an active force in his city. Serving as the President of the Clergy United for Today and Tomorrow as well as first Vice-Moderator for the Southern District Association, Pastor Jones has maintained a solid commitment to promoting leadership and activism within the community. His distinguished service and remarkable dedication to improving the lives of people through faith will assuredly continue to serve as an excellent example to communities everywhere.

I applaud Reverend Jessie Jones for his leadership, commitment, and service, and urge my colleagues to join me in saluting him for his exemplary years of faith and service.

HONORING ALISTAIR W. McCRONE

**HON. MIKE THOMPSON**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 13, 2002*

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Alistair W. McCrone, President, Humboldt State University, Arcata, California, who, on April 11, 2002, is being honored by the Humboldt State University Alumni Association with the Distinguished Service Award on the occasion of his retirement.

Dr. Alistair McCrone, a native of Regina, Saskatchewan, Canada, received his B.A. in geology from the University of Saskatchewan, his Master of Science degree from the University of Nebraska and his Ph.D. from the University of Kansas. He began his career as a petroleum geologist in western and sub-arctic Canada. For eleven years he taught geology at New York University. From 1970 to 1974 he served as academic vice president at the University of the Pacific.

Dr. McCrone became the fifth President of Humboldt State University in 1974. Under his leadership, the university earned a notable reputation for academic excellence and innovative programs in higher education. During his distinguished tenure, Humboldt State University received national recognition for its participation in the Peace Corps, its programs in environmental studies and its high rate of graduates who later earn doctoral degrees, particularly in the sciences and engineering.

Dr. McCrone and his wife, Judith Saari McCrone, are highly esteemed on the North Coast of California for their dedication and service to the community. In their honor, Humboldt State University established the Alistair and Judith McCrone Graduate Fellowship Fund in October 2001. Dr. McCrone has emphasized the importance of graduate studies and has had the support of his colleagues in his wish to see the University become a leader in the field of graduate education.

Alistair McCrone has earned many distinguished honors and awards for his accomplishments. He received the Erasmus Haworth Distinguished Alumnus Award from the Univer-

sity of Kansas in 2000. He is a Fellow of the Geological Society of America, the American Association for the Advancement of Science, and the California Academy of Sciences. He is a member of the board of directors of the American Association of University Administrators. In addition, he is a member of the Board of Directors of the California State Automobile Association and a Trustee of the California State Parks Foundation.

Mr. Speaker, it is appropriate that on the occasion of his retirement we recognize Dr. Alistair W. McCrone for his vision and leadership and for his contributions and service to the people of our country.

TRIBUTE TO THE MOBILE INTERNATIONAL FESTIVAL

**HON. SONNY CALLAHAN**

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 13, 2002*

Mr. CALLAHAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Mobile International Festival, the first and oldest event of its kind in the Gulf Coast region. Founded in 1983, Mobile International Festival has helped to educate school children and share with the general public an event of cultural arts, foreign languages and world history. It has showcased Mobile's own rich heritage and promoted appreciation of diverse cultures worldwide.

Every week before Thanksgiving, Mobile International Festival brings a cultural, fulfilled family experience of over 60 countries from Mobile's international community. Its stated mission is to "encourage a spirit of friendship between students, community and the growing numbers of immigrants and international citizens; to strengthen understanding and acceptance among people of different cultures; to provide an opportunity to share in the uniqueness of each heritage through art, music, dance, food, flags, and cultural exhibits from over 60 countries; and to provide educational and cultural activities which promote an awareness and appreciation of our city's rich cultural heritage."

The festival enhances the many cultures that are found in Mobile and nearby counties. Teachers have used the festival as a teaching tool and part of their curriculum. The festival supplements their studies in Geography, Foreign Languages, Art, Social Studies and Home Economics.

The festival has contributed to the quality of life of Mobile's citizens. Due to the importance of this cultural event to the community, Mobile International Festival participates in many community-oriented activities representing the international community and assists the City of Mobile and Mobile County in selected events.

In today's ever-shrinking world, where countries and cultures are increasingly required to interact and co-exist, Mobile International Festival serves as model for education and understanding between people of all different backgrounds.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud that my district plays host to this noble and important event. I believe the values it teaches are not only important for all Americans, but for all mankind, as we try to make our world a better place for future generations.